WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Setting up of new coastal nuclear power stations

4587. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to set up around five new coastal nuclear power stations using high-end reactors of 1,000 MWe and above and the overall capacity of each station could be ramped up to almost 8,000 MWe;

(b) whether 12 member Site-Selection Committee recommended locations for setting up nuclear plants in the country;

(c) whether Government are also considering a proposal to permit firms registered under the Companies Act to build nuclear plants and to allow entry of international players in the energy sector; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Setting up of Light Water Reactors of 1000 MWe capacity and above depends on developments on opening up of international civil nuclear cooperation.

(b) No, Sir. The Committee is evaluating the sites offered by State Governments.

(c) and (d) As per the Atomic Energy Act, only a Government Company can be permitted to set up nuclear power plants. No decision has been taken with regard to companies registered under Companies Act.

Nuclear power stations in the country

4588. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of nuclear power stations in the country and their generation capacity;

(b) the quantity of actual generation;